

**Frederick County Ethics Commission**  
**Minutes for the Public Meeting of Tuesday, March 15, 2011**

Present: Karl W. Bickel, Commission Member  
Paula C. Bell, Commission Member  
E. Donald Foster, Alternate Commission Member  
Linda B. Thall, Senior Assistant County Attorney

Absent: Andrew T. Jones, Chairman

The Frederick County Ethics Commission met at 7:00 p.m. on March 15, 2011, at the Office of the County Attorney on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Winchester Hall, 12 East Church Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701.

**Request for an Advisory Opinion** – The Ethics Commission considered a request for an Advisory Opinion from a former County Commissioner, asking whether his uncompensated representation of another on a matter in which he participated as a Commissioner would present a violation of Section 1-7.1-4(G) of the Ethics Ordinance. The Commission members agreed by consensus that this would not violate Section 1-7.1-4(G). The Senior Assistant County Attorney was asked to prepare a draft Advisory Opinion for the Commission's review.

**Communication regarding a matter pending before the Board of County Commissioners** – The Ethics Commission received an email message about a potential conflict of interest on the part of members of the Board of County Commissioners in acting on a matter involving a property subject to an agricultural land preservation easement. The Commission members felt that, based on the information provided, no action on its part was required at this time. The Senior Assistant County Attorney was asked to respond to the email message.

**Request for clarification of an Addendum to an Advisory Opinion** – The Ethics Commission previously took under advisement a request for clarification of the Addendum to Advisory Opinion 10-02. Since the Addendum was issued, the Ethics Commission was presented with additional information concerning the process for approval of developer funded contracts. The Commission considered the new information and the implementation concerns raised about the Addendum.

**MOTION:** Mr. Bickel moved to rescind the Addendum to Advisory Opinion 10-02 and to direct the Senior Assistant County Attorney to draft a formal rescission. Ms. Bell seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**Adjournment**

The Ethics Commission adjourned its meeting at 7:55 p.m.

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Linda B. Thall, Senior Assistant County Attorney